

For Immediate Release: May 10, 2006 AFS News Release 2006-07 Contact: Kevin McIver, Public Affairs, 907-356-5511

## FORT RICHARDSON PRESCRIBED BURN SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW

FAIRBANKS, Alaska—The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service is planning to ignite the Fort Richardson Complex project tomorrow for the U.S. Army Alaska.

An attempt was made last week to complete the burn project, but precise conditions were not met. Now the burn is scheduled for May 11-14.

The public may see smoke in the area and increased vehicle activity during the burn. This activity may last for several days and officials advise the public to keep away from the area and watch out for firefighting personnel, vehicles and equipment.

The objectives of the 46-acre Fort Richardson Complex project is to decrease surface fuel loading and manage grass density thereby reducing the possibility of ignition or fire escape during live fire training.

Additionally, a Prescribed Burn Hotline operated by the Elmendorf Air Force Base Fire Department, will be monitored during the burn. To ask questions or provide comments during the burn, or to report smoke intrusion, call the hotline at 907-552-2801.

For more information contact the Fort Richardson Garrison Public Affairs Office at 907-384-2546. Information is also available on the AFS web site at http://fire.ak.blm.gov under the "Prescribed Fire" section.

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The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Alaska Fire Service provides: wildland fire suppression services for all Department of the Interior and Native Corporation lands in Alaska and assists those entities with other fire management activities, including: guidance and interpretation of fire policy for BLM Alaska; and management of the BLM Alaska aviation program. In addition to fire suppression missions, AFS also conducts prescribed fires in accordance with various partner agreements.